

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (original) A stacked packing for a heat-exchange or mass-transfer column with at least one packing (3) comprised of several layers (4a and 4b), characterized in that some of the layers (4b) of the packing are of greater density and therefore have a greater surface area than other layers (4a).

2. (original) The packing according to claim 1, characterized in that the packing layers (4a and 4b) are oriented transversely to the horizontal position of the packing (2, 3).

3. (currently amended) The packing according to claim 1 [[or 2]], characterized in that the packing layers (4a and 4b) are set at an acute angle or perpendicular.

4. (currently amended) The packing according to one of the preceding claims claim 1, characterized in that the packing layer (4b) of larger surface area has a surface area that is 2 to 10 times greater than the surface area of the other layers (4a).

5. (currently amended) The packing according to one of the preceding claims claim 1, characterized in that the two packing layers (4b) of higher surface area are mounted directly against each other.

6. (original) The packing according to claim 5, characterized in that, between the layers (4b) of greater surface area, there are 1 to 10, preferably 3 to 6, adjacent layers (4a) with a smaller surface area.

7. (currently amended) A stacked packing according to claims 1 [[to 3]], characterized in that the packing layers (4b) with the larger surface area are made of materials that have perforations, in particular expanded metal or wire mesh.

8. (currently amended) The use of the packing according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 for carrying out distillation, absorption, gas scrubbing, extraction distillation, or reactive distillation.

9. (currently amended) The use of the packing according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 for separating liquids in columns.